

**ABSTRACT**

The invention provides inhibitors of chondrosarcoma cell growth that are useful as anti-cancer and anti-tumor agents. The inhibitors are peptides having sequences related to 5 cleavage regions of the proenzyme forms of matrix metalloproteinases and that can inhibit the activity of matrix metalloproteinases. The peptide inhibitors of the invention can be formulated into therapeutic compositions, lotions, creams and wound dressings.